

Meeting Minutes

Board of Health for Madison and Dane County EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

June 4, 2008

4:15 p.m.

Water Utility
119 E Olin Avenue
Conference Room A & B

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Schwartzstein, Judy Wilcox, Susan Zahner, Lauren Cnare
OTHERS PRESENT: David Caes, Patricia Frazak, Tom Schlenker, Tommye Schneider,
Jeff Kostelic, Pamela Abel

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 4:17 p.m.

Public Comment – None

Discussion of 2009 Budget Process

The Board and Schlenker acknowledged the work of David Caes in producing the budget document “Funding Sources for Public Health Programs” in such a clear manner. It is exactly what they wanted.

Funding Sources

Caes summarized the handout on funding sources. The funding categories are GPR, grant/contract, fees and total. At the beginning of the document, he assembled the totals for the department and then on page 2, broke down the funding by major program area, provided a description and the mandate specific to that area. One suggestion for changing the document is to check the box of ten essential services for all mandated items. Programs not included are community assessment and epidemiology. Caes pointed out that everything we are doing is required by state statute or else there is a contract for service. The department does seek new revenue where possible. We can now bill for dental hygiene services, which will add about \$20,000 to our budget. Fees are likely to increase this year. There is an annual decline in the amount of state funds granted every year, in part due to less federal money available to states. When asked how we compare in budget to other counties in Wisconsin, the answer is Dane County is lower than most others, and we are understaffed in comparison. The hiring of Public Health Nurses has not increased for five years despite a 2% growth in population and an increase in the complexity of cases.

Schlenker announced that if members have more input after reviewing this document further, please let Caes know. The budget letter from County Executive Falk was reviewed and discussed. Public health needs to be acknowledged as one of those services that must be preserved in hard times. The unique status our agency has as a joint entity whose budgeting is not controlled by either governmental entity solely was brought up, as well as recognition of the disparate timing of budgeting between the city and county. It was suggested, and agreed upon, to be proactive and send the executives a department budget after review by the Board at their

meeting on June 19. A letter will be crafted by tomorrow by Cnare, reviewed by Schlenker, Wilcox and Kostelic citing the uniqueness of public health and requesting the Mayor and County Executive meet to develop relevant budget standards for the department.

Capital Budget

Caes is in the process of compiling items that need to be part of the package. Computer replacement next year could be around \$80,000. Last year, the city passed the capital budget for our department but the county did not.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.